

In the past 6 years I have heard numerous success stories that arose from the 1996 welfare reform legislation that touched millions of lives.

Our great former President, Ronald Reagan, once said, "We should measure welfare's success by how many people leave welfare, not by how many people are added."

In 1996 there were over 14 million welfare cases. Since then, however, that number has been reduced by 9 million. But this debate is more than just about numbers. It is about people.

Statistics cannot explain the smiling faces of success. Before and during recess, Members have been learning firsthand about success stories in each of our districts, which we have been pleased to share with you. These are truly inspirational stories about overcoming adversity to achieve independence. That, Mr. Speaker, is what the American dream is all about.

Let us help make that dream a reality by passing President Bush's welfare reform proposal.

CONGRATULATING U-CONN HUSKIES

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Connecticut Huskies for capping a perfect 39-0 season with their third NCAA women's basketball championship.

Sports experts around the country are now saying what many of us in Connecticut already knew in our hearts: This is one of the best teams in basketball history.

The Huskies set the standard for perfection. They ranked number one in the Nation for scoring, 3-point shooting percentage, scoring defense, and field goal percent allowed. They set an NCAA record with a season-long average victory margin of 35.4 points, and set a national record with 831 assists.

Throughout the entire season only one opponent lost by less than 10 points, and all five of the Huskies' starters, Asja Jones, Swin Cash, Tamika Williams, Diana Taurasi, and national player of the year Sue Bird, made the Big East All Tournament Team.

Simply by doing what they love, these talented young women have proven themselves to be role models for girls and boys across this Nation. With their absolute determination and a commitment to team work, the U-CONN Huskies have achieved perfection.

I congratulate them on their win and we look forward to more seasons to come. Go Huskies!

□ 1015

BAN HUMAN CLONING NOW

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, it is written that "I set before you blessings and curses, life and death. Now choose life that you and your children might live."

Today, 40 Nobel laureates will come to Capitol Hill to express their support for human cloning for research. Apparently Professor John Nash, the Nobel laureate portrayed in the movie "A Beautiful Mind," is not the only Nobel winner who is crazy.

Human cloning is morally wrong. It is without a doubt in the overwhelming view of the American people and of our President and of medical ethics for thousands of years that research on human beings for medical advance is wrong. It is a dark path leading to the nightmare of eugenics, and it is a path upon which those in the 20th century embarked too often.

Congress should reject the intellectual again. We should heed the majority of the American people, listen to our President, choose life and ban human cloning now.

TIME TO THROW OUT THE TAX CODE

(Mr. LINDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, Monday is April 15; and the American people will genuflect before the altar of their government and hand over everything they have earned for the past year and, in so doing, pay out of their pockets just to comply with this code.

Last year, the American people spent \$250 billion just in compliance costs with this complicated code. That is a 15 percent surtax on the tax that we pay. For small business, which creates most of the jobs in this country, they will pay \$724 just to comply with the code, collect and remit \$100 in taxes.

Mr. Speaker, this system is broken and cannot be fixed. To those who think we can have a flat tax on incomes, I say we did that once, 1913, and look what we have got.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to throw out this Tax Code, start over, let people keep what they earn and pay on what they spend and let every American become a voluntary taxpayer once and for all.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND'S MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Maryland men's basketball team for winning the 2002 NCAA national championship. On the 50th anniversary of my doctorate from the University of Maryland, I would

like to express my appreciation for the job Coach Gary Williams has done in resurrecting the team's proud heritage to make the team a national champion.

I would especially like to mention senior guard, first team All American, Juan Dixon. Juan Dixon overcame his parents' death at an early age, as well as many other obstacles, to become the great player he is now. Dixon and many of his teammates were continually discounted as not having the mettle to win the title and not having much of a chance to succeed individually. They proved every critic wrong by bonding together to win as a team.

It was an amazing run by the Terps this year, and all Maryland is proud of them. The story of the Maryland basketball team this year has been one of great perseverance, and we salute their achievement and pursuit of excellence on and off the court.

CONTINUING WELFARE REFORM SUCCESSES

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Welfare Reform Action Team, I am here today to reopen the discussion on welfare reform. In 1996, after a contentious debate that will not soon be forgotten, Republicans rallied to pass welfare reform.

Another thing that will not be soon forgotten is welfare reform's historic results. Republican-led welfare reform has proven successful in replacing welfare checks with paychecks, fostering independence, boosting personal incomes and improving the well-being of children.

In 1996, Congress fixed a welfare system that was completely broken. The proof is in the numbers. Since 1994, welfare caseloads have been reduced by 9 million. The number of individuals receiving cash assistance has dropped by 56 percent. Nearly 3 million children have been lifted from poverty, and the child poverty rate is at its lowest level since 1978. That is real progress.

Now that the success stories from many and the naysayers are few, it is my sincere hope that this House will support the President in reauthorizing welfare reform in a strong bipartisan fashion. There is still more work to be done. We must continue to strengthen the path toward independence.

WELFARE REFORM REAUTHORIZATION

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues, I salute my Committee on Ways and Means colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. HERGER), for introducing the reauthorization of